

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of the application as amended are requested. Support for amended claim 1 is found from the deleted language of original claim 2 and from figure 1. Support for amended claim 7 is found from figure 1. Support for amended claim 11 is found from the deleted language of original claim 12 and from figure 1. Support for amended claim 17 is found in lines 23-25 of page 6 of the specification and from figure 1.

The examiner's rejection of claims 1-4 and 11-14 as being obvious, under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Takano '031 in view of WIPO 01/51826 (using US 6,749,045 to Rosenfeldt as an English equivalent).

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1, and claims 12-16 depend from claim 11. Amended claims 1 and 11 now specify that the hydraulic-mount decoupler 14 is disposed entirely between the first and second sides 20 and 22 and entirely radially outward from the second orifice 26. The examiner alleges that the diaphragm 118 of Takano is a decoupler, but it is not disposed entirely between the first and second sides 20 and 22 and it is not disposed entirely radially outward from the second orifice as required by amended claims 1 and 11. It is noted that having the decoupler 14 disposed entirely between the first and second sides 20 and 22 is equivalent to having the decoupler 14 be disposed entirely in the first orifice 24 (i.e., entirely between the first terminus 28 and the second terminus 30 of the first orifice 24). The diaphragm 118 of Takano is not disposed entirely in the first orifice (i.e., entirely between the first terminus and the second terminus of the first orifice).

The examiner's rejection of claims 5-6 and 15-16 as being obvious, under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Takano '031 in view of WIPO 01/51826 (using US 6,749,045 to Rosenfeldt as an English equivalent) and Kato '168. Claims 5-6 depend from claim 1 and claims 15-16 depend from claim 11. Applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1 and 11 over Takano and Rosenfeldt are herein incorporated by reference.

The examiner's rejection of claims 1-4 and 11-14 as being obvious, under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Takano '031 in view of WIPO 01/51826 (using US 6,749,045 to Rosenfeldt as an English equivalent) and further in view of Baldini '262. Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and claims 12-14 depend from claim 11. In this rejection, the examiner does not allege that Takano discloses a decoupler but instead alleges it would have been obvious to have included the decoupler 48 of Baldini '262 in the first orifice 142 of Takano 46 in order to provide a means of tuning the orifice for particular frequency vibration inputs without having to adjust the circumference of the actual orifice. Applicants respectfully disagree. There is nothing in Takano and/or Baldini which teaches, suggests or describes such a combination. Baldini describes that his decoupler 48 is seated and seals his secondary track 46 under high amplitude and particularly low frequency vibratory input (see column 6, line 63 to column 7, line 10). Takano describes that his first passageway 142 becomes substantially blocked by the liquid 130 contained therein when the engine vibrations have a high frequency (see column 9, lines 37-41). If Takano wants his first passageway 142 blocked under high frequency vibrations, what is the motivation to install the decoupler 48 of Baldini in the first passageway 142 of Takano when Baldini teaches that his decoupler 48 is seated and seals his secondary track 46 under low frequency vibrations. Takano teaches away from using the decoupler of Baldini.

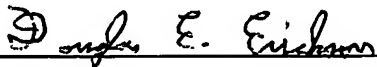
The examiner's rejection of claims 5-10 and 15-20 as being obvious, under 35 USC 103, is respectfully traversed. The examiner rejects these claims as being unpatentable over Takano '031 in view of WIPO 01/51826 (using US 6,749,045 to Rosenfeldt as an English equivalent) and Baldini '262 and further in view of Bausensistel '761. Claims 5-10 depend from claim 1 and claims 15-20 depend from claim 11. Applicants' previous remarks concerning the patentability of claims 1 and 11 over Takano and Rosenfeldt and Baldini are herein incorporated by reference. With reference to claims 7-10 and 17-20, claims 8-10 depend from claim 7 and claims 18-20 depend from claim 17. Amended claim 7 now specifies that the first terminus 28 of the first orifice 24 face in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis 40 and that the second terminus 30 of the first orifice 24 face in a direction substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis 40. It is noted that the first terminus of passageway 142 of Takano faces in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal axis and that the second terminus 146 of passageway

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142 of Takano faces in a direction aligned at a substantially forty-five degree angle to the longitudinal axis. Amended claim 17 now specifies that the second terminus 30 of the first orifice 24 is in contact with air. It is noted that each terminus of passageway 142 of Takano is in contact with liquid and that each terminus of the passageway 46 of the decoupler 48 of Baldini is in contact with liquid.

Inasmuch as each of the rejections has been answered by the above remarks and amended claims, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn, and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Douglas E. Erickson", is written over a horizontal line.

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